

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Calne Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>16 February 2010</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Community Area Grants</b>

**Purpose of Report**

To ask Councillors to consider 3 applications- seeking 2009/10 Community Area Grant Funding:

1. Hilmarton & Goatacre Group Improving Safety (HAGGIS) – seeking £2,140 towards the introduction of ‘white gates’ to raise motorist’s awareness of road safety and speeding on entering village communities.
2. Calne Community Area Young Peoples Issues Group (CAYPIG) – seeking £3,665 towards providing equipment for a Power-kiting and Land-boarding club for young people from the Calne Community Area.
3. Calne Community Area Partnership – Environmental Theme Group – seeking £5,000 towards facilitating the sustainable development of a Friends of the Abberd Brook community group, a bank of community volunteers and a series of community projects and activities to improve and maintain the brook and encourage community pride and cohesion.

## 1. Background

- 1.1. A single and simple Community Area Grant application process was accepted by the Implementation Executive on 13 May 2009 for use during 2009/10.
- 1.2. Area Boards have authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to the Area Boards by the Leader of the Council (13 May 2009). Under the terms of that delegation Area Boards must operate within the policies set by the Leader and /or the Council. The Council has adopted an Area Grants policy, with funding criteria, to which the Area Boards must adhere.
- 1.3. In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, any recommendation of an Area Board that was contrary to the funding criteria would need the approval of the Leader, the appropriate Cabinet Member or the Cabinet.
- 1.4. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting until 31 March 2010.
- 1.5. Calne Area Board was allocated a budget of £31,744 for 2009/10. After a deduction of 20% to core fund the Community Area Partnership, a total of £23,279 remained for distribution through the Community Area Grants Scheme.
- 1.6. Following the award of Community Area Grants at the Area Board meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2009, the Calne Area Board has a balance of £11,360. Appendix 1 – (Calne Community Area Grants budget summary) is included to provide information about the distribution of Community Area grants awarded by the Calne Area Board in the current financial year.

<b>Background Documents Used in the Preparation of this Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Community Area Grant Criteria 2009/10</b></li><li>• <b>Calne Community Area Plan 2004</b></li><li>• <b>Calne Community Area Plan 2006</b></li><li>• <b>Hilmarton Parish Plan 2005</b></li></ul>
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## 2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2009/10 year are made to applicants where projects can realistically proceed before 31 March 2010.
- 2.2. This report forms the final round of funding that will take place during 2009/10. Once confirmed, the first round of 2010/2011 awards will take place on:
  - 27<sup>th</sup> April 2010
- 2.3. Community and voluntary groups, town and parish councils are encouraged to check the Wiltshire Council website for an announcement about any revisions to the application form/process in the middle of March 2010:  
<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/communityandliving/areboards/areboardscommunitygrantsscheme.htm>  
Or contact the Community Area Manager (details below)

### 3. Environmental Implications

- 3.1. Some environmental implications may arise indirectly from the Community Area Partnership application to develop a community group that will champion the Abberd Brook and its future restoration maintenance and protection, consideration has been given to this application in section 8.3 of this report.

### 4. Financial Implications

- 4.1. Awards must fall within the Area Boards budget allocated to the Calne Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Calne Area Board will have a balance of £ 555

### 5. Legal Implications

- 5.1. There are no specific legal implications related to this report.

### 6. HR Implications

- 6.1. There are no specific HR implications related to this report.

### 7. Equality and Inclusion Implications

- 7.1. Wiltshire Council is committed to Equality and Inclusion. Community Area Grants give all local community and voluntary groups, town and parish councils an equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.
- 7.2. Consideration has been given to each specific application and implications are outlined within section 8 of this report.

### 8. Officer Recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1.	Hilmarton & Goatacre Group Improving Safety (HAGGIS)	To introduce 'white gates' at entrances to villages to raise motorists awareness of speed and road safety on entering village communities.	£ 2,140

**8.1.1. Hilmarton & Goatacre Group Improving Safety (HAGGIS) – Award £2,140 towards the introduction of 'white gates' at the entrances to the villages, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place and the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010.**

8.1.2. The villages of Hilmarton and Goatacre are thriving village communities which straddle the A3102 Lyneham to Calne road. This is a major route for people travelling towards Wootton Bassett, Swindon and junction 16 of the M4. The road also forms the main route for traffic being directed to Calne from the M4.

- 8.1.3. This application meets the 2009/10 funding criteria and demonstrates direct links to the consultation section of Hilmarton Parish Plan - 2005, which states that 'Speed of traffic through the parish' is a significant issue, particularly on the A3102. Current speed restrictions are considered to be inadequate and the majority of opinion calls for increased measures to further reduce traffic speed and increase road safety measures.
- 8.1.4. The Hilmarton Parish plan feeds directly into the Community Area Partnership and will therefore influence the next edition of the Community Plan which the Steering group is currently working to revise.
- 8.1.5. The HAGGIS group has emerged in response to this community issue in the Parish and has undertaken research and consultation to identify possible road safety measures at Hilmarton and Goatacre. One of the three main aims that the group has identified is the implementation of white entrance gates to the villages and this is the project contained within this application.
- 8.1.6. It is thought that the introduction of white 'gates' will encourage motorists to take more notice of the fact that they are entering a village environment and will be more mindful of road safety issues and the speed at which they are travelling.
- 8.1.7. The installation of gates is one of a series of measures that the group is trying to implement/influence – It has also been active in consulting on the speed limit review and has mobilised a group of volunteers to be put forward for Wiltshire Council's Speedwatch initiative.
- 8.1.8. The gates will be sited outside the boundary of the Hilmarton conservation area and Wiltshire Council planning officers have advised that they will not require planning permission.
- 8.1.9. HAGGIS representatives have liaised extensively with Wiltshire Council highways officers to ensure that their position and design will fall in line with Highways guidelines. Highways officers are assisting in arranging necessary utilities searches.
- 8.1.10. This project relates to Wiltshire Council priorities around engaging with local people to find their priorities and work with them to deliver solutions and will work towards increasing the number of people who feel safe in their communities and may help to reduce deaths through accidents. The Haggis group is also addressing Wiltshire Council priorities around increasing the involvement of local people involvement in regular volunteering.
- 8.1.11. The total cost of this project is £4,281. If Members make an award in line with Officer recommendations this will represent approx. 49% of the total project costs and will leave a shortfall of £2,140
- 8.1.12. The group has received provisional funding offers to cover this shortfall from Hilmarton PC and the Landfill Tax Credit scheme and has confirmed that, if successful, it will be in a position to draw down an award before the end of the financial year.
- 8.1.13. Failure to fund this application will not prevent the project from proceeding although its start date will be delayed while alternative funding is identified.
- 8.1.14. Further details of this application are provided in Appendix 2.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	Calne Community Area Young Peoples Issues Group (CAYPIG)	To provide Powerkiting and Landboarding equipment.	£ 3,665

- 8.2.1. Calne Community Area Young Peoples Issues Group – Award £3,665 towards providing equipment for Power-kiting and Land-boarding clubs open to young people between the ages of 11 and 18 from across the Calne Community Area, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place and the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010.**
- 8.2.2. The Calne Community Area has a range of extreme sports opportunities for young people to become involved with, existing groups and facilities for climbing, mountain biking, Parkour and now power kiting and land-boarding. Officers recommend that the Area Board considers requesting that the Youth Development Co-ordinator, Wiltshire Alternative Youth Sports and Wiltshire Area Sports Partnership work together to develop a structured approach for co-ordinating all of the various groups currently active in the Calne Community Area, to ensure that Calne is recognised as a centre of alternative sports.**
- 8.2.3. During the spring, summer and autumn of 2009, a project took place providing a series of power-kiting taster sessions for young people aged between 11 and 18 from the Calne Community Area. The project proved popular with a wide range of young people including young people with disabilities from the Bridging Project, which is run by Wiltshire Council's Youth Development Services
- 8.2.4. The taster sessions were able to run as a result of the group being able to borrow the necessary equipment for this specific period of time from an existing, established group, from outside of the area.
- 8.2.5. The CAYPIG now wishes to acquire its own equipment so that it can develop the project into a Power-kiting group, which will be open to more young people on Monday and Tuesday evenings at the Grove Youth Centre and also the start of a new Land-boarding project at Beversbrook Sports facility on Saturdays.
- 8.2.6. Power kiting and land-boarding are extreme sports that are rapidly growing in popularity, particularly amongst young people. They require specifically trained instructors and risk assessors in order to run such groups safely. The Calne CAYPIG is fortunate to have links with a trained instructor from within Wiltshire Councils Youth Development Service and is developing plans to train young people from the group as instructors.
- 8.2.7. This sport provides a focus upon which young people can direct their energy and natural desires to 'push the limits', it also engages young people in healthy activity which builds aerobic capacity and strength; and at the same time fosters a respect and awareness of the outdoors and teaches skills in risk assessing conditions and environments that are suitable for practicing the activity.
- 8.2.8. The CAYPIG does not hold a bank account and it is proposed that, if successful, the Youth Development Co-ordinator, who has already worked with the group, will hold

the funds on the groups behalf and will also hold the equipment in safe keeping at the Grove.

8.2.9. This application meets the 2009/10 funding criteria and demonstrates direct links to the Calne Community Area Plan by providing activities for young people.

8.2.10. In addition it directly relates to Wiltshire Council priorities by improving young people's participation in positive activities, engaging with local people to find their priorities and working with them to deliver solutions, it also encourages life style change, impacting positively upon the health of individuals and will work towards reducing actual and perceptions of anti social behaviour.

8.2.11. The total cost of this project is £7,331. If the Area Board makes an award in line with Officers recommendations this will represent approx. 50% of the total project costs and will leave a shortfall of £3,665.

8.2.12. The CAYPIG has confirmed funding offers to cover this shortfall from Extended Schools and WYPOF schemes, and will be in a position to draw down an award before the end of the financial year.

8.2.13. Failure to fund this application will prevent this project from proceeding at the current time.

8.2.14. Further details of this application are provided in Appendix 3.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	Environmental Theme Group of the Calne Community Area Partnership (CCAP)	To 'pump prime' the creation of and sustainable development of a Friends of the Abberd Brook community group, to provide short term professional support, to promote a bank of community volunteers, a series of community projects and activities to improve and maintain the brook and encourage community pride and cohesion.	£ 5,000

**8.3.1. Environmental Theme Group of the Calne Community Area Partnership (CCAP) – Award £5,000 towards pump priming the creation and sustainable development of a community group, projects and activities that will promote community cohesion and address significant community issues about the Abberd Brook including the short term provision of professional support, conditional upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010.**

8.3.2. The Abberd Brook has been a significant issue for the Calne Area Board having been raised formally through the issues process and conversations with local Councillors and the Community Area Manager. A working group was set up in October 2009,

made up of various agencies, organisations and local residents; it was tasked with looking at local people's concerns and aspirations for the maintenance and management of the Abberd Brook.

- 8.3.3. Westlea Housing Association has been investigating restoration work on the brook and the surrounding land as a public amenity for a number of years and has achieved some projects working with local people to deliver clean up days, biodiversity awareness activities and consultation about what people would like to see happen in the area.
- 8.3.4. The Abberd Brook is also featuring as a specific issue for the Community Area Partnership as it reviews its Calne Community Area Plan and as a result is being championed by the Calne CAP Environment Group.
- 8.3.5. The Area Board working group has identified a community aspiration for this area to be enhanced and developed to form a 'green vein' providing opportunities of more environment friendly and traffic free methods of accessing the town centre.
- 8.3.6. It has also identified a community desire to be involved in taking a formative role in designing the space and community volunteers emerging to drive forward actions and projects to achieve this.
- 8.3.7. As a by product this may also lead to opportunities for intergenerational activity, community responsibility, pride and a celebration of diversity which may have great potential for addressing community safety issues linked to anti-social behaviour, crime and the fear of crime.
- 8.3.8. A dedicated, proactive 'Friends of the Abberd Brook' (FAB) community group is emerging and there is a general consensus amongst all of partners involved in the Area Board Working Group that this community group should form a pivotal role in the future of the Brook and that, in order to achieve its potential this group needs some initial pump priming and dedicated professional support to set the group up in a sustainable fashion, to develop a funding strategy, a communication strategy, a business plan, a development plan for community volunteers, a programme of small scale community projects and a long term plan for achieving the restoration of the brook and ensuring that it is included in long term development plans for the town at all levels.
- 8.3.9. The partners involved in this project do not have the resources available to provide support in areas of community development, engineering, planning, the environment and biodiversity and so, if successful, part of this award will go towards the appointment of a dedicated project worker for a temporary period of 9 – 12 months.
- 8.3.10. This project directly relates to Wiltshire Council priorities around: engaging local people to find out their priorities and working with them to deliver solutions; increasing the numbers of local people involved in volunteering; encouraging people to make lifestyle changes that will have a positive impact upon the health of both themselves and their family, improving young people's participation in positive activities, increasing the numbers of people who feel safe in their community, improving the local area through intergenerational activities such as street clean ups and community events, reducing perceptions of anti-social behaviour, reducing carbon emissions from transport and improving local biodiversity.
- 8.3.11. The total cost of this project is £22,000. If the Area Board makes an award in line with Officers recommendations this will represent approx. 23% of the total project costs and will leave a shortfall of £17,000.

- 8.3.12. The award of a grant to support running costs is not normally acceptable to the Community Grant Scheme. However the Area Board is permitted to make an exception where a project can demonstrate a wide community benefit. Officers are of the opinion that, in this instance, the outcomes offered by this project and discussed in this report represent community benefits of a significant level and that, as such an exception may be applied.
- 8.3.13. The Calne CAP Environment Group has confirmed funding from Westlea Housing Association, in principle donations from The Community Area Partnership and Coleman’s Farm Community Association, A community grant application awaiting decision from Calne Town Council and an expression of interest application awaiting decision from the Wiltshire and Swindon Community Foundation Grass Roots fund. If any of the unconfirmed sources are not successful, the Environment Group is confident that the project can be adjusted to assure that it will be in a position to draw down funding before the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010.
- 8.3.14. Failure to fund this application may prevent this project from proceeding at the current time; this would result in a loss of enthusiasm and drive amongst the community group and a delay in providing positive resolutions to some significant issues for the local community.
- 8.3.15. Further details of this application are provided in Appendix 4.

<b>Appendices:</b>	<p><b>Appendix 1 Calne Community Area Grants budget summary</b>  <b>Appendix 2 Grant application – HAGGIS (Hilmarton and Goatacre Group Improving Safety)</b>  <b>Appendix 3 Grant application – Calne CAYPIG (Community Area Young Peoples Issues Group)</b>  <b>Appendix 4 Grant application – Calne CAP Environmental Theme Group</b></p>
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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